

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                 |   |                                     |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| In re Application of            | : | Entitled:                           |
|                                 | : |                                     |
| Franz Heiss                     | : | FASTENING DEVICE                    |
|                                 | : |                                     |
| Int'l Filing Date: 16 June 2004 | : |                                     |
|                                 | : |                                     |
| Serial Number: Not yet Accorded | : | Attorney Docket Number 294452-00001 |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
600 Grant Street – 44<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

12 December 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims**

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on Page 2 of this paper.